



**Libertarian Party of Virginia**

**State Rules  
Packet**

**2008-2010 Term**

**Budget, Constitution, Bylaws & Policies  
as modified as of April 18, 2009**

**Prepared by**

**Marc Montoni, Secretary**

# Contents

<b>Budget 2007</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>LPVA Constitution</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Bylaws</b>	<b>Page 6</b>
<b>Policy Documents</b>	<b>Page 8</b>
<b>Strategic Planning Conference Notes</b>	<b>Page 11</b>
<b>A Special Gift</b>	<b>Page 12</b>

# *Libertarian Party of Virginia*

## *2007 Budget*

---



**As approved 2007-01-20**

*All budget allocations during 2007 shall be assumed to be in the form of Annual Allocations or Supplemental Allocations. Such allocations can be approved or altered at subsequent SCC meetings; such votes will require a two-thirds majority for approval.*

*Allocations for 2007 Budget:*

**Allocation of membership dues (\$25 general membership):**

- \$10 for Virginia Liberty (40% of membership dues)
- \$5 for the Membership Development Committee (20% of membership dues)
- \$4 for the General Fund (16% of membership dues)
- \$2.50 for the Communications Committee (10% of membership dues)
- \$2.50 for the Local Affiliate Parties Committee (10% of membership dues)
- \$1 for a Convention Fund (4% of membership dues)

**Allocation of membership dues (\$5 student membership):**

- \$5 for General Fund (100% of student membership dues)

**Allocation of funds that are raised for a specific purpose:**

- 10% of the funds to the Financial Development Committee (standard overhead charge for caging of funds, use of LPVa credit card processing account, etc.);
- 90% of the funds to that specific purpose.

**Allocation of funds received that have not been donated for a specific purpose:**

- 15% of the funds to the Communication Committee
- 20% of the funds to the Membership Development Committee
- 20% of the funds to the Political Development Committee
- 15% of the funds to the Local Affiliate Parties Committee
- 10% of the funds to the Financial Development Committee
- 20% of the funds to the General Fund

**2) Concerning various accounts:**

(a) As of 1/20/2007, Transfer \$5,000 from the General Fund to the Ballot Access account. (Notes: This anticipates that LPVa will conduct a petition drive in 2008, and will need to utilize the services of paid petitioners to complete this drive successfully. We believe the drive will cost \$9,000 - \$10,000 in 2008, and that it is best to allocate the funds now rather than waiting until we are closer to 2008.)

(b) As of 1/20/2007, Eliminate the Business Services Committee and henceforth fund whatever is needed for business services out of the General Fund.

(c) As of 1/20/2007, Establish a Convention Fund, to be used for state conventions and funded by a payment of \$1.00 from the annual dues of each dues-paying member of the LPVa.

**3) Operating Assumptions**

This budget assumes revenues as follows for 2007:

- (a) we shall receive at least \$11,000 from payment of LPVa dues; and
- (b) we shall raise roughly \$12,000 in donations.

**4) Miscellaneous**

Proposals for revenues and expenditures for specific committees will be distributed to the SCC by the chairs of those committees.

---

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Marc Montoni, Secretary  
 Libertarian Party of Virginia

## LPVA Constitution

# Libertarian Party of Virginia

## Formed In Convention, December 15, 1974

### As Amended In Convention, **March 29, 2008**

### ARTICLE I NAME OF THE PARTY AND AFFILIATION

SECTION 1. The name of this organization shall be "The Libertarian Party of Virginia" (hereinafter referred to as "the Party").

SECTION 2. The Party shall be affiliated with the National Libertarian Party and shall adhere to that organization's "Statement of Principles" adopted in Convention of the Party in June 1974 and amended henceforth; the text of said statement shall become a part of this Constitution as Article X.

### ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP IN THE PARTY

Except as provided in Article VII, any person who is currently and has been a member of the National Libertarian Party for at least thirty (30) days, who resides and is domiciled in Virginia (as defined by Virginia law) and who has donated at least \$25 (Targeted or Project Donations excepted) (or at least \$5 for current students) to the Libertarian Party of Virginia within the preceding twelve month period, is a member of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.

U.S. citizens who, due to military service, do not reside in Virginia but are registered Virginia voters, or U.S. citizens temporarily living overseas who can prove Virginia citizenship, shall also be eligible to become members of the LPVA under the same terms as above.

Any resident of Virginia who is a Life member of the National LP shall be considered a member of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.

### ARTICLE III OFFICERS; ELECTIONS; DUTIES; VACANCIES

SECTION 1. The officers of the Party shall be a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

SECTION 2. The officers of the Party shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates to the Regular State Convention; or, in the case of a vacancy in any office, as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. The officers shall serve from the closing of the Convention at which they are elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as elsewhere provided in this Constitution. Officers of the party shall be paid members in good standing; and no person who is currently serving as an officer of another political party may serve as an officer of the LPVA.

SECTION 3. The Chairman's duties shall include, but not be limited to, acting as primary spokesman for the Party, chairing meetings of the State Central Committee and all Party conventions, and appointing, with the consent of the State Central Committee, an Executive Director, Legal Advisor, and all coordinators of standing and ad hoc committees. The Chairman shall also perform such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee.

SECTION 4. The Vice Chairman shall chair meetings of the State Central Committee and all Party conventions in the absence of the Chairman. Should the office of Chairman become vacant for any reason, the Vice Chairman shall assume the Chair. The Vice Chairman shall also carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee.

SECTION 5. The Secretary shall take and distribute minutes of all State Central Committee meetings and of all Party conventions. In addition, the Secretary shall be responsible for official Party correspondence as required and for insuring the accuracy and completeness of all Party membership and mailing lists. The Secretary shall also carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee. The Secretary's nonvoting responsibilities shall continue beyond the Convention at which his replacement is elected for such duration as determined by the SCC solely in order to complete and present the Minutes of the Convention, the revised Constitution and Bylaws, and the revised Platform of the Libertarian Party of Virginia.

SECTION 6. The Treasurer of the Party shall establish and maintain all Party bank accounts and manage all Party investments, collect and disburse Party funds at the direction of the State Central Committee, keep records and receipts for all such transactions, and prepare and file any Party financial reports required under Virginia and federal law. The Treasurer shall also

prepare and distribute a written financial report at each meeting of the State Central Committee and at all Party conventions, and shall perform such other duties of a fiduciary nature as the State Central Committee may assign.

SECTION 7. Any officer of the Party may be removed from office upon a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the entire membership of the State Central Committee. All members of the State Central Committee must be given written notice at least seven days in advance of a meeting that such a motion will be presented.

SECTION 8. Any vacancy in an elected Party office, except that of Chairman, may be filled by majority vote of the entire membership of the State Central Committee. Notice of such vacancy must be provided in writing to all members of the State Central Committee at least seven (7) days in advance of a meeting at which any such vote is to be taken.

### ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION OF THE PARTY

SECTION 1. The policy making and administrative authority of the Party shall be vested in a State Central Committee.

A. Voting members of the State Central Committee shall be the officers of the Party elected by the preceding Regular Convention, or their successors, and the Chairman of the Party in each Congressional District of the Commonwealth. Any member of the State Central Committee may proxy his or her vote to any member of the Party, provided that such proxy is in writing, dated, and signed. No person may cast more than one vote. Persons holding more than one voting State Central Committee position shall be entitled to one vote only.

B. Meetings of the State Central Committee shall be held at least four (4) times in each calendar year. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman at his or her discretion. Notice of all State Central Committee meetings shall be given in writing to all State Central Committee members at least seven (7) days in advance. Meetings of the State Central Committee shall be open to all members of the Party.

C. The powers of the State Central Committee shall include, but not be limited to, the following: 1) the authorization of the appropriation and expenditure of Party funds with the approval of two thirds majority; 2) the appointment, by two thirds majority, of an Interim Congressional District Chairman where such chairmanship is vacant and no district organization exists, but wherein such district there are at least ten members of the Party; such Interim District Chairman to serve as a voting member of the State Central Committee until a District Convention is held and a permanent District Chairman is elected; 3) removal, by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the entire membership of the State Central Committee, of the Party's endorsement of any candidate for statewide office and, in announcement, delineation of the reasons therefor. The candidate in question and the State Central Committee must be notified of the proposal at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting; 4) **issuing an endorsement of a write-in candidate for any statewide offices(s) after the petition filing deadline, if no candidate(s) sought the office in question in time for the state convention (if any) held in the same year; however, the SCC shall not endorse any candidate who sought endorsement from a convention of the membership, but failed;** 5) discharge of all other responsibilities and duties as herein further provided, those duties inherent in any such organization, and those duties and responsibilities provided for in the Bylaws of the Party; 6) adoption and amendment of Bylaws to this Constitution by a two thirds (2/3) majority.

D. A quorum to conduct business at any meeting of the State Central Committee shall be a majority of its voting members or their proxies.

E. Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to suggest that Members of the LPVA are prohibited from recording the proceedings of any LPVA meetings, including those of the SCC or any subcommittees, in any format they wish, without restriction, except when the SCC has convened into an Executive Session (if allowed). In an Executive Session, the SCC is permitted to ban any recording of the proceedings of that Session alone.

SECTION 2. There shall be a Party District Committee in and for each Congressional District of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The District

Committee shall be responsible for the selection and support of a Candidate for the US House of Representatives.

A. All members of the Party residing within a given Congressional District shall be eligible for participation in the affairs of the Party in that District.

B. All Congressional District officers must be current members of the LPVA.

C. Whenever ten (10) or more Party members in a district which lacks a District Committee shall so request in writing, the Party Chairman shall call a District convention. The business of the District convention shall include election of District officers and may include the adoption of District Committee Bylaws. All Party members known to reside within a District shall be notified by the Party Secretary of such convention at least fourteen (14) days in advance in writing. Only District residents who are members of the Party shall be eligible to vote at such conventions.

D. Any portion of District Committee Bylaws in conflict with the LPVA Constitution shall be invalid.

## **ARTICLE V CONVENTIONS OF THE PARTY**

SECTION 1. The Party shall be empowered to hold Regular, Special, and General State Conventions.

SECTION 2. Only those persons who are currently members of the Libertarian Party of Virginia, and who have been members of the Party for at least thirty days within the previous twelve months, shall be granted the right to vote at conventions.

SECTION 3. Regular State Conventions shall be held at least forty five (45) days, but not more than six (6) months, prior to the biennial Convention of the National Libertarian Party. They shall be called by the State Central Committee in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Libertarian Party. At least thirty days prior to the date of such convention, the Party Secretary shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Regular State Convention shall include the election of Party officers, and may include changes in the Party Constitution, election of delegates to regional or national Libertarian Party conventions, passage of resolutions, adoption of a Party platform, and nomination of, or endorsement of, candidates for statewide offices.

SECTION 4. Special State Conventions may be called by the State Central Committee at any time in accordance with the Laws of Virginia and the Constitution and Bylaws of the National Libertarian Party. At least twenty one days prior to the date of such Special State Convention, the Party (Secretary) shall mail to all members, a notice of such convention. Business for a Special State Convention may include the election of Party officers where vacancies have occurred, changes to the Party Constitution, or such special matter or matters as defined by the State Central Committee in its call and publication of an agenda for said Special State Convention.

SECTION 5. One fifth of the members of the Party, not exceeding 200, carried on the then current list of members maintained by the Party's Secretary named in a petition submitted to the State Central Committee, may call a General State Convention at a time specified in the petition by notifying the State Central Committee of such intention. Upon such notification, the State Central Committee shall notify all members of the Party in writing at least twenty one days prior to the date of the General State Convention. The business, location, and agenda of a General State Convention shall be specified by a spokesman for those submitting the petition and the State Central Committee shall so inform the membership of the Party of the business and location of the Convention. The Party Secretary shall provide for mailing services within 30 days to solicit petition signatures. The spokesman shall bear all initial costs including mailings and accommodations, but shall be reimbursed by the State Central Committee if approved by two thirds of the General State Convention.

SECTION 6. District Conventions shall be held at least once every two years and at least thirty days prior to the Regular State Convention. The business of such District Conventions may include, but is not limited to, the election of District officers, election of other District Committee officials as may be necessary, nomination or endorsement of candidates for the United States House of Representatives, adoption of a District platform, and the conduct of any other business as may properly come before such conventions. Requirements for the conduct of District Conventions may be further defined in the Bylaws of the Party.

Within seven days of any State Board of Elections filing deadline, if a CDC has not taken the actions required to allow compliance with state law, the

Chairman shall declare the CDC noncompliant and therefore automatically defunct. The Chairman shall immediately appoint Interim CDC officers to satisfy the legal requirements but also to assist in the establishment of a new and compliant CDC. Any bylaws or other rules in existence when the CDC is declared noncompliant shall be immediately considered null and void, and the former CDC committee shall be prohibited from claiming or otherwise using the trademarked name "Libertarian Party" or substantially similar names in any future communications.

SECTION 7. Local conventions may be held in order to further the growth of the Party. Requirements for the conduct of Local Conventions may be further defined in the Bylaws of the Party.

## **ARTICLE VI ENDORSEMENTS BY THE PARTY**

The Party, its District and Local Committees, shall be empowered to nominate, support, endorse, contribute to, or otherwise assist candidates for public office. Such powers may be applied to candidates of other parties or independent candidates provided 1) they certify in writing that they do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals and 2) that the National, State, District, or Local Libertarian Party organization does not have a candidate for such public office.

## **ARTICLE VII EXPULSION FROM THE PARTY**

Any member of the Party may be expelled from the Party for cause; procedures for the expulsion from the Party under this Article shall be provided for in the Bylaws of the Party.

## **ARTICLE VIII LEGAL AND PARLIAMENTARY GUIDELINES FOR THE PARTY**

SECTION 1. The Party shall be guided by the provisions of the "Virginia Election Laws as Amended to April 5th, 1974" and such subsequent amendments to said laws as may, from time to time, be enacted.

SECTION 2. In areas not specifically enumerated by this Constitution, nor in the law referred to in Section 1 of this Article, nor in the Bylaws of the Party, the Party and all its bodies shall be governed by a current, SCC approved, copy of "Robert's Rules of Order".

SECTION 3. The State Central Committee shall adopt and amend Bylaws to this Constitution by a two thirds majority vote.

## **ARTICLE IX AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution may be amended at any Regular State Convention of the Party by a two thirds vote. This Constitution may be amended at any Special or General State Convention of the Party by a two thirds vote, provided that at least 1/15 of the state Party membership have registered at the Convention.

## **ARTICLE X STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF THE NATIONAL LIBERTARIAN PARTY, ADOPTED IN CONVENTION, JUNE 1974.**

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual. We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose. Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent. We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual: namely, (1) the right to life -- accordingly we support the prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action -- accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property -- accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation. Since governments, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders; and the resultant

economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

**ARTICLE XI ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution shall take effect upon adoption by a two thirds vote at the Convention of the Party on December 15th, 1974.

---

I hereby certify that this is the correct, complete and true copy of the LPVA Constitution as amended in the Convention of the Party on April 22, 2006.

Marc Montoni, Secretary  
Libertarian Party of Virginia  
PO Box 28263  
Richmond VA 23228-0263  
Secretary@LPVA.com  
804-288-2766



# Bylaws

## As amended, July 8, 2006

### §01. NOMENCLATURA

§01.01 **MISSION STATEMENT:** The Mission of the Libertarian Party of Virginia is to move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party which elects Libertarians to public office (Adopted by the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) in 1994).

§01.02 **STATEMENT OF VISION:** In order to create a Libertarian Society in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Libertarian Party of Virginia was established to Recruit, Support, and Elect candidates who will pass legislation in support of that end.

§01.03 **LPVA ESTABLISHED AS POLITICAL COMMITTEE:** The LPVA shall become a Political Committee in the Commonwealth of Virginia and as a State Political Party Committee with the Federal Election Commission.

#### §01.04 DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY

§01.04.01 Throughout these Bylaws, the words "the Party" and the abbreviation "LPVA" shall be construed to mean the Libertarian Party of Virginia.

§01.04.02 Throughout these Bylaws, the abbreviation "SCC" shall be construed to mean the State Central Committee of the Libertarian Party of Virginia. The term "State Central Committee" is designated in the Election Laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

### §02. MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIBERS

§02.01 **Dues shall be \$25 per annum; except that Dues for current students shall be \$5 per annum. [Per SCC, 2006-07-08]**

§02.02 The State Central Committee shall be authorized to set, after consultation with the Newsletter Editor, a subscription charge and advertising rates for the Party Newsletter and other official Party mailings. In lieu of this action, the Newsletter Editor is authorized to set such charges and rates.

### §03. OFFICERS

§03.01 No related bylaws at this time  
 §03.02 No related bylaws at this time

#### §03.03 CHAIRMAN

##### §03.03.01 JOB DESCRIPTION

§03.03.02 **CANDIDATE LISTING:** The chairman shall cause to have published annually, beginning with 1996, a listing of all elected Virginia offices which will appear on a ballot in that year. Each updated listing shall be published on or before the 28th day of February of each year and distributed to all members of record via an acceptable method. The Chair may expend a sum not to exceed 25.00 dollars each year to compile and publish the list. The listing shall include the following information as a minimum: Office Title, Local Jurisdiction, Term in office, Obligation Level, Election Method, Ballot Access Requirements, Typical Winning Budget.

#### §03.04 VICE CHAIRMAN

##### §03.04.01 JOB DESCRIPTION

#### §03.05 SECRETARY

§03.05.01 **JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Secretary's duties shall be in accordance with Policy Document 03.05.01.

§03.05.02 The Secretary shall publish a list of recognized Local Committees with each "Minutes".

#### §03.06 TREASURER

§03.06.01 **JOB DESCRIPTION:** The Treasurer's duties shall be in accordance with Policy Document 03.06.01.

##### §03.06.02 TREASURER'S AUTHORITY:

The Treasurer is authorized to draft checks as directed by the assigned manager of a Cost Center except that (1) the amount paid shall not exceed the amount in the Cost Center, (2) any check over the amount of \$500.00 must be countersigned by another Officer of the LPVA and (3) any officer of the LPVA may bar such expenditures unless over ruled by the other three officers.

Any planned use of a LPVA check card by an officer of the State Central Committee for an expenditure of over \$500 shall be approved in advance by at least one other officer of the State Central Committee.

The Treasurer shall not permit the signing or countersigning of checks without the payee and the amount to be paid having been filled in.

The Treasurer shall implement such procedures as he deems in the best interest for the smooth functioning of the financial business of the LPVA.

§03.06.03 **AUDIT:** The State Central Committee shall appoint an Auditor, who may be a Certified Public Accountant, at the first meeting of each year, for the purpose of conducting a review. The Auditor's Report in that case shall be provided to the SCC no later than the second meeting of the year.

The State Central Committee shall also appoint an Auditor at each succession to the office of Treasurer; and the Auditor's Report in that case shall be provided to the SCC no later than the first meeting following the succession, or at the next. The Auditor may select up to two other individuals to assist with the Auditor's work.

The Auditor shall review the Party's financial transactions and status since the previous Audit. Copies of the Auditor's report shall be provided to the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary, and the Secretary shall make available for inspection by any Party member the entire Audit Report upon reasonable request. The Secretary shall include the Audit report in the Minutes of the SCC meeting at which the completed Audit Report is presented.

§03.06.04 **DEBT:** The Party shall not, without the vote of three quarters (3/4) of the State Central Committee membership, incur any debts. "Debt" shall be defined as a circumstance in which the Party's accounts payable exceeds funds in Party accounts.

§03.06.05 **DEPOSITORY OF RECORD:** The Depository of Record shall be as defined in Policy Document 03.06.05: *Depository of Record*.

§03.06.06 **FISCAL YEAR:** The fiscal year of the LPVA shall begin on January 1st and end on the following December 31st.

§03.07 No related bylaws at this time

§03.08 No related bylaws at this time

### §04. ORGANIZATION

#### §04.01 STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

##### §04.01.01 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIRMAN:

§04.01.01.01 **DUTIES:** In accordance with Article IV Section 1-A of the LPVA Constitution, the Congressional District Committee Chairman or his designated proxy (-ies) represent the CD at SCC meetings. The Congressional District Chairman may assign several proxies in ranked order; and is responsible for informing the LPVA Secretary the order of voting privilege in the event of the Congressional District Chairman's absence.

§04.01.01.02 **INTERIM APPOINTMENT:** In accordance with Article IV Section 1-C-2 of the LPVA Constitution, the SCC may appoint, by a 2/3 majority, an Interim CD Chairman when no district organization exists. Should an Interim CD Chairman (or his designated proxy) not attend an SCC meeting or should the Interim CD Chairman fail to hold a district convention within 60 days of being appointed, such dereliction shall be considered a de facto resignation and the SCC shall consider nominations for a new Interim CD Chairman at the first opportunity.

§04.01.02 **STANDING COMMITTEE:** The functioning of the State Central Committee shall be supported by implementation of Policy Document 04.01.02: *Outline of State Party Standing Committee Structure*. The implementation shall be as modified from time to time by the State Central Committee. Where a chair cannot be found for a committee specified in the Committee Structure, the SCC shall function as the committee.

The State Central Committee will provide to the Treasurer on a quarterly basis a complete list of the assigned managers of the various Cost Centers. Upon one week notification of the officers, the Chairman may assign a temporary manager of a Cost Center. Any two officers may negate the temporary assignment of a Cost Center manager until the next SCC meeting.

§04.01.02.01 The editor of the newsletter *Virginia Liberty* shall publish the newsletter in the interest of the Party, and generally in accordance with the guidelines of Policy Document 04.01.02.01: *Guidelines for Publication of Virginia Liberty*.

§04.01.03 E-VOTING E-voting is permitted to vote on motions requiring majority vote. Motions requiring 2/3 or higher support, such as bylaws changes, may only be submitted at in-person meetings. E-voting shall be conducted in accordance with the following procedure:

1) E-motions may be submitted for a vote by sending an email to the official LPVA SCC email list with the following format for the Subject line:

**MOTION - date submitted - Name of Submitter - Brief Title**

2) Once an E-Motion is made, voting members of the SCC have seven (7) days to vote. Votes are to be made to the SCC list by PRE-pending one of the following to the subject line:

**SCC Position - YES -**  
**SCC Position - NO -**  
**SCC Position - ABSTAIN -**

3) The motion shall carry if it receives a yes vote from the majority of the entire SCC.

4) Seven (7) days after the date submitted, the Secretary shall certify the results of the vote via an email to the LPVA SCC list with " - CERTIFIED VOTING RESULTS" appended to the subject line. If the Secretary is unavailable, any officer may certify the results.

5) All E-votes taken between in-person meetings will be summarized by the Secretary. The summary will be submitted for approval at the next SCC meeting along with the Minutes of the last meeting.

6) Motions may not be amended. Therefore, it is suggested that discussion as to wording occur up front by sending with the following format for the Subject line:

**PROPOSED MOTION - Name of Submitter - Brief Title**

§04.01.04 Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, Tenth Edition, shall serve as the official guide to parliamentary procedure for the Committee.

#### §04.02 DISTRICT COMMITTEES

§04.02.01 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIRMAN:

§04.02.01.01 METHOD OF SELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE: The Congressional District Committee should specify in its governing documents the term of office and the method of choosing Committee officers.

§04.02.01.02 ORGANIZED AND UNORGANIZED COMMITTEES: The SCC shall consider a District Committee to be "organized" if that committee has held a District convention at least once in the preceding two years (as described in Article V Section 5 of the LPVA Constitution), and has a Chairman not appointed by the SCC.

District Committees are required to submit, at least once every year:

- 1) A list of current officers;
- 2) A copy of the current District Bylaws as passed by the most recent District convention, or a letter stating that the CD chose to adopt no Bylaws or repealed existing Bylaws at such convention; and
- 3) A copy of the Minutes of any meeting at which officers were appointed.

The above documentation must be duly certified & signed by an authorized District officer.

The SCC may downgrade District Committees to "unorganized" status if the above conditions are not met. District Committees failing to meet these requirements shall be notified of their pending loss of status by the LPVA Secretary via certified mail no later than the last day of the two-year period.

The District Committee shall then have thirty days to reply to the LPVA Secretary. If the District Committee wishes to remain recognized, an authorized officer must submit the above documentation.

District Committees may also be downgraded to "unorganized" status if the position of district committee Chairman is vacant and there are no plans by the committee to fill the vacancy.

When a District Committee is non-compliant under these rules, the SCC may officially downgrade that committee with the consent of 2/3rds of the SCC members present and voting.

§04.03 LOCAL COMMITTEES: "Local Committees" are the County and City affiliates of the Libertarian Party of Virginia. A county or city committee shall be eligible for official recognition by the Party when, upon petition to the State Central Committee for recognition, it demonstrates:

- (1) That it is comprised of at least ten contributing members of the national Libertarian Party who are residents of that county or city; (2) that it has adopted written rules for its governance; and (3) that it has elected such officers as are required by the adopted rules.

The designation of local affiliate committee status will be in effect for a period of two years from the date of approval by the State Central Committee. A local organization may be re-certified as a local committee by the State Central Committee, provided the organization satisfies the requirements for recognition and provides to the State Central Committee a current membership list and a current copy of the written rules for its governance.

If at any time during the two-year recognition period a local affiliate committee no longer satisfies all of the criteria necessary for recognition, the State Central Committee may vote to remove the designation of local affiliate committee from the organization. If at the end of a two-year recognition period a local affiliate committee no longer satisfies the criteria necessary for recognition but maintains a membership and activity level that the State Central Committee considers worthy of recognition, the State Central Committee may vote to re-certify such an organization as a local affiliate committee.

Party members in contiguous cities and counties may band together for the purpose of forming a local committee. At such time as the Party members in a subset of the cities and counties in a local committee wish to separate and form a new local committee, two conditions must be met:

- 1) Each resultant subgroup must be able to form a new committee per the requirements above; and
- 2) The Party members of each subgroup must approve the separation by majority vote at a convention called per the bylaws of the original committee except that the LPVA SCC may approve a unilateral separation.

The assets and liabilities of the original committee shall be apportioned to the new committees according to the number of Party members in each.

The chairs, or their proxies, of all officially recognized local committees shall caucus at regular State Conventions to elect a member of the LPVA as the chair of an SCC standing committee on Local Affiliate Parties. In the absence of such a caucus, the State Central Committee shall select the chair of the committee.

#### §05. CONVENTION RULES

§05.01 RULES FOR ALL STATE CONVENTIONS

§05.02 SPECIAL RULES FOR REGULAR STATE CONVENTIONS  
 §05.02.01 (Section deleted 25 Jan 03)

§05.03 SPECIAL RULES FOR SPECIAL STATE CONVENTIONS:

§05.03.01 BUSINESS BEFORE A SPECIAL STATE CONVENTION: Business to be considered by the members attending a Special State Convention (one called by the SCC) shall be as specified in such motion as is made to call the Convention. The Party Secretary shall specify the authorized business of the Convention on the official Agenda mailed to the current membership.

§05.04 SPECIAL RULES FOR GENERAL STATE CONVENTIONS  
 §05.05 SPECIAL RULES FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CONVENTIONS  
 §05.06 SPECIAL RULES FOR LOCAL PARTY CONVENTIONS

#### §06. ENDORSEMENTS AND SUPPORT OF CANDIDATES

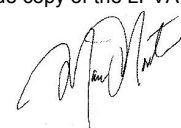
§06.01 SELECTION OF CANDIDATES: No candidate seeking the endorsement or nomination of the Party for statewide office shall be endorsed or nominated unless said candidate shall have received the vote of more than fifty (50) percent of the delegates registered at the Convention at which the vote is taken.

#### §09. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

§09.01 Except as noted elsewhere, amendments to these Bylaws require a two thirds (2/3) vote of the State Central Committee.

I hereby certify that this is the correct, complete and true copy of the LPVA Bylaws as amended July 8, 2006.

Marc Montoni, Secretary - Libertarian Party of Virginia  
 PO Box 28263, Richmond VA 23228-0263  
 <Secretary@LPVA.com> 804-288-2766





# Policy Documents

As amended, July 8, 2006

**[SECRETARY'S NOTE: These Policy Documents are referenced in the Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Virginia. They are not considered to be part of the Bylaws, and therefore may be amended by a majority vote of the entire State Central Committee.]**

## **POLICY DOCUMENT 03.05.01 - Duties of the Secretary**

### ELECTION & TERM OF OFFICE:

The Secretary, like other officers of the Party, is elected by majority vote of Regular State Convention delegates, and serves from the closing of the Convention at which he is elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as otherwise provided in the Party Constitution.

### OFFICIAL DUTIES, SPECIFIED IN THE CONSTITUTION

The Secretary takes and distributes minutes of all State Central Committee meetings and of all Party conventions. The Secretary should keep with the definitive copy of the minutes any and all subcommittee or standing committee reports, a copy of any state newsletters published since the last meeting, and a list of the current LPVA contacts (SCC roster, endorsed candidates, local affiliates, standing committee members, affiliated PAC's, etc.).

The Secretary is responsible for official Party correspondence as required. Examples include:

a) Informing via 7 days written notice the membership of the SCC regarding the next regular meeting, formal officer removal or vacancy replacement motions, and formal motions to remove the Party's endorsement of any candidate for statewide office and, in announcement, delineation of the reasons therefore (this last shall include written notice to the candidate in question).

b) At least thirty days prior to the date of a Regular state convention, the Party Secretary must mail to all members a notice of such convention. The notice must include the proposed Agenda: election of Party officers, and any proposed changes to the Party Constitution, election of delegates to regional or national Libertarian Party conventions, passage of resolutions, adoption of a Party platform, and nomination of, or endorsement of, candidates for statewide offices.

c) At least twenty-one days prior to the date of Special or General State Conventions properly called by the State Central Committee or a group of members, respectively, the Party Secretary must mail to all members a notice of such convention. The notice must include a proposed Agenda, which should include the election of Party officers where vacancies have occurred, changes to the Party Constitution, or such special matter or matters as defined by the State Central Committee in its call for a Special State Convention. In the case of a General State Convention properly called by members of the Party, the Party Secretary shall provide for mailing services within 30 days of request to solicit petition signatures.

d) At least fourteen (14) days in advance in writing, and upon proper petition and specific call by the Party Chairperson, the Party Secretary must send notice of a District Convention to all Party members known to reside within the District of such convention. The notice prepared by the Secretary must include a proposed Agenda, which includes election of District officers and may include the adoption of District Committee Bylaws. Only District residents who are members of the Party shall be eligible to vote at such conventions.

The Secretary, in cooperation with the Membership Committee Chairperson, is responsible for insuring the accuracy and completeness of all Party membership and mailing lists.

The Secretary must maintain or have access to any materials that would guide or govern the Party's activities directly, such as the definitive copy of the LPVA Constitution & Bylaws, any relevant sections of Election Law in the Code of Virginia, and any relevant National LP Bylaws or standing resolutions/rules.

The Secretary shall also carry out such other duties as may be assigned by the State Central Committee.

### AD HOC DUTIES

The Secretary shall maintain a complete and accurate list of:

- persons entitled to vote at SCC meetings;
- those who might not be entitled to vote at SCC meetings but are nevertheless affiliated/important with/to the party, such as chairpersons

of standing committees, affiliated PAC's, local LP affiliates, and endorsed candidates for public office;

- any pre-filed proxies from members of the SCC
- A listing of the property of the LPVA and its custodians

## **POLICY DOCUMENT 03.06.01 Duties of the Treasurer**

ELECTION & TERM OF OFFICE: The Treasurer, like other officers of the Party, is elected by majority vote of Regular State Convention delegates, and serves from the closing of the Convention at which he is elected until the closing of the following Regular State Convention, except as otherwise provided in the Party Constitution.

OFFICIAL DUTIES, SPECIFIED IN THE CONSTITUTION: The Treasurer of the Party shall establish and maintain all Party bank accounts and manage all party investments, collect and disburse Party funds at the direction of the State Central Committee, keep records and receipts for all such transactions, and prepare and file any Party financial reports required under Virginia and federal law. The Treasurer shall also prepare and distribute a written financial report at each meeting of the State Central Committee and at all Party conventions, and shall perform such other duties of a fiduciary nature as the State Central Committee may assign.

### AD HOC DUTIES:

The Treasurer is directed to reimburse any current SCC officer and any current District Representative for the cost (up to \$35) of procuring either a softbound or hardbound edition of this manual, upon submission of an acceptable receipt or a signed statement by the purchaser that the manual was purchased and the amount spent, under the condition that the guide be returned to the SCC upon completion of service by those individuals.

The Treasurer is asked to maintain a list of the Party owned books under the heading "LPVA Property" or "inventory" in the periodic Treasurer's Report. That listing shall note the names of the individuals holding the Party owned copies of this manual. The Treasurer is asked to make some effort to assure that departing officers return these manuals upon completion of their service.

The Treasurer is asked to retain all financial records for three years. *[adopted 4/18/2009.]*

## **POLICY DOCUMENT 03.06.02 (Section Deleted 2006-01)**

## **POLICY DOCUMENT 03.06.05 DEPOSITORY OF RECORD**

Resolved, the LPVA shall open a checking account with a Bank, and that funds so deposited may be paid upon a check, draft, or other instrument or order of the organization.

Be It Further Resolved that any of the following persons are hereby authorized to draw and sign checks against such Account and to take any other action and transact any business with Bank relating to the deposit and/or withdrawal of money or property in said Bank, provided that one signature (two if over \$500) shall be required on each withdrawal from the account.

Chairman  
Vice-Chairman  
Treasurer  
Secretary

Be It Further Resolved that said Bank is hereby authorized and directed to honor and pay without limit as to amount, without inquiry and without regard to the disposition of any proceeds thereof, any orders for the payment of money, including but not limited to checks, drafts, notes, or other like instrument, whether such instruments be payable to the order of any such person signing said instruments, or payable to the order of any such person in their individual capacities, and whether such instruments are deposited to the individual credit of the person so signing said instruments, or to the credit of any other officer or agent.

Be It Further Resolved that the Bank, in accordance with the foregoing Resolutions, is hereby requested, authorized, and directed to accept the facsimile, or purported facsimile, signature(s) of any one of the above designated officers regardless of by whom or by what means the facsimile, or purported facsimile, may have been affixed as such signature(s) resemble the facsimile specimens duly certified to and filed with the Bank.

This Resolution shall continue and remain in force until written notice of a revocation has been duly served on the Bank.

**POLICY DOCUMENT 03.06.06 Naming of Depository of Record**

The Bank of Record shall be "BB&T" . [adopted 4/18/2009.]

**POLICY DOCUMENT 04.01.01 Duties of the Congressional District Chairman**

OFFICIAL DUTIES, SPECIFIED IN THE CONSTITUTION

1. Represent the Congressional District Committee at State Central Committee (SCC) meetings as a voting member of the SCC.
2. Provide a proxy to the Secretary for meetings that cannot be attended in person.

DUTIES

1. Contact new members in the district, by telephone whenever possible, by mail if necessary. Contact existing members by newsletter and/or phone whenever possible; if there is no newsletter in the CD, work to establish one with the chair(s) of the local affiliate(s). Contact soon-to-expire and recently expired members by phone whenever possible, by mail if necessary, to encourage renewals. 2. Maintain a contact list of members in the CD, with any information about the members pertinent to local organizing, skills, campaigning, etc. This list is not the personal property of the CD rep, and must be returned to the SCC and/or to the CD rep's successor. 3. Work with the local affiliate(s) in the CD to recruit new members, recruit candidates for office, and support local, state and national candidates. Attend local affiliate meetings and assist local affiliate(s) in their activities; attend SCC meetings; provide reports to the local affiliates of SCC activity, and provide reports to the SCC on CD activities. 4. Recruit candidates for Congressional races and work with Campaign Coordinator and local affiliate chairs to recruit campaign staff, including campaign managers.

**Policy Document 4.01.02 State Party Standing Committee Structure**

- 1130 Local Affiliate Parties Committee Chair **TITLEHOLDER: Jim Lark**
- 2000 Membership Development Chair **TITLEHOLDER: Marc Montoni**
  - 2100 Membership Generation
  - 2200 Membership Retention
  - 2300 Convention/Symposiums
    - 2320 Symposia
  - 2400 Database Services Coordinator
- 3000 Financial Development Chair **TITLEHOLDER: (vacant)**
  - 3100 Fund Raising
  - 3200 Budgeting
- 4000 Political Development Chair **TITLEHOLDER: Donny Ferguson**
  - 4100 Candidate Development
  - 4110 Candidate Recruitment
    - 4120 Candidate Adoption
    - 4140 Candidate Training
  - 4200 Campaign Support
  - 4300 Ballot Access **TITLEHOLDER: Jim Lark**
  - 4400 Lobbying
- 5000 Communications Chair: **TITLEHOLDER: Steve Damerell**
  - 5100 VA Liberty Editor **TITLEHOLDER: (editorial committee)**
  - 5200 Public Relations
  - 5300 Media Relations
  - 5400 Internet Systems/Webmaster
  - 5500 State Legislative Services
  - 5600 Campus Coordinator **TITLEHOLDER: Jim Lark**
- 6000 Audit Committee Chair **TITLEHOLDER: Jim Lark**  
**Other Members: Jeff Bowles**

**Suggested Job Descriptions -Standing Committee Chairs**

**STATE CAMPAIGN COORDINATOR**

The Campaign Coordinator will:

1. Recruit candidates for state and local offices; assist candidates in staffing campaign teams, including campaign managers.

2. Maintain a list of candidates and potential candidates. This list is not the personal property of the CC, and must be returned to the SCC upon resignation.

3. Act as the liaison between the SCC, local affiliates, and candidate organizations, including national candidates and their organizations. The CC will be the contact between those candidate organizations and the SCC for the purposes of arranging campaign events in the state, as well as facilitating contact between local affiliate volunteers and the candidate's campaign organization.

4. Regularly communicate with campaign managers to look for ways to improve campaign efforts.

5. Attend educational seminars, such as the Success series, to increase knowledge of campaign techniques; the SCC will approve payment of the seminar registration fees and other fees as required or requested to enable the CC to attend these instructional programs.

6. Submit one readable article a month to the executive director about how to succeed as a campaign staff member.

**ASSISTANT CAMPAIGN COORDINATOR/CAMPAIGN STATISTICIAN**

The Campaign Statistician will:

1. Produce a campaign report for each election including the activities of campaigns, election returns and conclusions drawn from that data.
2. Maintain a campaign management guide including reporting requirements (to campaign coordinator and progress reports from campaign coordinator), management principals (mission, objectives, tasks, goal integration), staffing (roles and responsibilities) and organization of resources.
3. Maintain the campaign history reference including the lessons learned from each campaign.

**COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

**TITLEHOLDER: Steve Damerell**

1. The Communications Director produces regular, timely press releases, and coordinates interviews of members of the party by the press.
2. The CD develops, coordinates, and supports a group of people who volunteer to write regular op-ed pieces and letters to the editor for various newspapers around the state.
3. The CD works with the Campaign Coordinator and local, state, and national campaign organizations to ensure effective media relations and the distribution of press releases to the media.
4. The CD will prepare and update a media list; the media list will include the addresses, fax and telephone numbers, and email addresses where available of all print, radio, and TV outlets in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**NEW INQUIRY LIAISON**

THE BASICS: Write letters and make follow-up phone calls -- like 20 to 30 a week each -- to new inquiries around the state, asking them to join the Libertarian Party, and send each one targeted information that would be useful to them (such as the contact list for their local affiliates, etc).

Each new inquiry should receive the following things:

- 1) A letter (or email) welcoming them to the Libertarian Party, and letting them know what the Party resources are for them in their own area. Each letter must be customized by region. For instance, if their city is Alexandria, I want them to get a letter/email with the list of Party affiliates close to them, as well as the sign-up instructions for their local LP email mailing list. - Each letter/email should also include a membership form, and if mailed rather than emailed, an LPVA reply envelope.
- 2) Each inquiry name should be forwarded to the affiliate for that area for further, localized follow-up.
- 3) Each inquiry name should be tracked to make sure it makes it onto the main database. This is also the stage where duplicate entries can be found; so if a new name is a duplicate, notice of the error must be sent to the List Manager.
- 4) If possible, inquiries should also be called. It is much preferable to see to it that someone LOCAL to them makes the call.

The LPVA Membership Committee is a stock letter/email ready for use; along with membership forms, reply envelope, stationary, and # 10 window envelopes.

**PLEDGE PROGRAM COORDINATOR**

THE BASICS: Write letters and make follow-up phone calls -- like 20 to 30 a week each -- to members around the state, asking them to join the monthly pledge program.

1. Request list of members from Database Manager. You will need to sign our list nondisclosure agreement and send it to LPVA with a buck to make it binding.  
2. Compose form letter designed to convince members to join the monthly pledge program.

3. Mail merge form letters to a selection of the LPVA database once a week. Pick out twenty or more names to concentrate upon that week. The actual number you wish to work on should be something you determine. However, since we have roughly 1,000 members and about 48 to 50 practical weeks to contact them all during a year, let's assume that the minimum to be contacted weekly should be 20.

4. Mail the letters for that week.

5. Write up a phone script or some flash cards with notes for your follow-up phone calls. Tell them the truth: monthly income will make us stronger, and we can't succeed without them.

6. Compose your own "Contact Management" form so you can record easily what was said in the conversation -- so that if they promise to join the pledge program and we never see their envelope, we have a reason to send them a follow-up reminder to start making their promised donation.

7. One week later (or guesstimate how long your letters will be taking to get to the addressees...), begin calling each person who was mailed during the previous week.

8. Mail thank-you notes to those who made a commitment; and follow-up letters to remind "iffy" pledgers.

9. MONTHLY: Request list of transactions for the member ID's you have contacted from List Manager. This will show you who have paid up.

10. QUARTERLY: Report to the List Manager. Include copies of the weekly call & mail lists with any scribbled notes on each contact listed thereon. Estimate hours spent on each portion of the task. Pretend you are working on a time clock. [The reason I ask for this is because a lot of times people on the SCC have little idea what each job takes in the way of time. I want the jobs we do documented so that we can make clear what is needed for each task.

#### INCIDENTAL JOBS

One of the best ways to build a pledge program is via personal appearances at local meetings. Look at the attendance sheet passed around at each meeting, write the name of each person from the guest sign-in sheet on a pledge card while the group handles other business. Then, once you have all the pledge cards filled out, ask for five minutes of floor time, and read a one to two paragraph speech about why the local members should join the Pledge Program. Ask one of the local people who knows the other members to distribute the filled-out pledge forms. This personalizes the process and will raise the acceptance rate. One thing you must remember when doing this: ask the people to use that pledge form right then and there, and hand it back to you with their donation and pledge. ASK FOR IT. Put them on the spot.

One last thing -- I would really like the volunteer for this position to try to attend all of the meetings of his own local group, and to get to other meetings around the state on an occasional basis.

-- ADDENDA --

1. By law, we are required never to call someone again if they asked to be removed from the phone list. You absolutely MUST send LPVA notice of such requests.

2. Be sure to use the utmost in politeness when contacting our members. When you are speaking with a potential pledger, NEVER read off their information on the phone; ask them to provide it to YOU. Write it down as they give it to you, and provide the info the way they provided it in your reports to me.

#### POLICY DOCUMENT 04.01.02.01 GUIDELINES FOR PUBLICATION OF VIRGINIA LIBERTY

It is recommended that *Virginia Liberty* be published 6 times yearly, on approximately the following schedule. The issue for a particular month may be required to have certain characteristics other than those listed; and in such case may have a differing audience.

~Feb 20: This may be a standard issue which goes to the Regular List. . This may also be the Convention Announcement issue, in which case it should go to The Enhanced List.

~Apr 20: This is the City and Town Election issue. It should go to The Enhanced List. This may also be the Convention Announcement issue.

~Jun 2): This is a standard issue and it goes to the Regular List.

~Aug 20: This is a standard issue and it goes to the Regular List.

~Oct 20: This is the General Election issue. It should contain final voting instructions and should go to the Full Active List.

~Dec 20: Holiday issue. This is a standard issue and it goes to the Regular List.

#### LISTS OF RECIPIENTS

Regular List: Members, VL Subscribers, LPNews subscribers, inquiries within the last 3 months.

Enhanced List: Regular list plus inquiries within the last 2 years.

Full Active List: All individuals voluntarily on the database for whom we have no reasonable indication that their addresses are invalid.

#### POLICY DOCUMENT 04.01.05 LPVA DATABASE USE POLICY

First, the LPVA membership database (the List) is the property of the Libertarian Party of Virginia (LPVA). In allowing others to use the List, the LPVA does not waive any ownership rights to the List.

ACCEPTABLE USE The List is to be used for LPVA party business only. It is not to be used to promote other organizations or businesses, except under EXPRESS agreement SEPARATE from use under this policy (ie- if individuals want to RENT the database for personal use, they must gain the consent of the LPVA and sign an agreement for that specific purpose). If an individual uses the List for personal or non-party business without such approval, he or she will be assessed a \$5.00 fine per name per occurrence, and the LPVA may pursue legal action against him or her.

The list is to be used in a professional manner. This includes treating the information on the List as confidential material. Any user engaging in unprofessional behavior in his or her use of the list will be subject to disciplinary action by the State Central Committee, up to and including being prohibited from future use of the list, possible censure, and pursuit of Civil/Criminal remedies where appropriate.

SHARING OF AND RELEASE OF DATA Users are not to share the database materials with other parties, except those having agreed to the terms of this policy. If another party member wants to help the designated user, and needs access to the list to do so, that person shall also be subject to the terms in this policy.

USERS OBLIGATION TO KEEP THE LIST CURRENT Users have an obligation to use best efforts to keep the database information current. If users, through the use of the List, obtain updated address/contact information on any of the individuals on the list, they will be expected to forward that information either to our National office or to the LPVA Address Corrections Manager for inclusion in future Lists. Any user failing to do so may be disallowed from future use of the List.

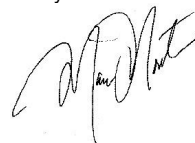
#### POLICY DOCUMENT 04.01.06 DATA RELEASE WITH MEMBER PERMISSION

1. Any organization or individual (hereinafter "requesting entity") offering special benefits, products, or services to LPVA members, such as discounts, scholarships, access to services such as email lists, or any other form of special treatment as a result of LP membership status, may obtain permission from that member to verify membership status.

2. Assuming the permission is granted by the member, the requesting entity may ask any LPVA or local officer or subcommittee member with access to the LP mailing list (hereinafter "authorized individual") to verify that person's membership status.

3. The authorized individual shall then verify membership status per the member's request. The form of permission may be implicit or explicit, and claimed in writing. If permission was verbal, the authorized individual shall withhold the answer until the member can be contacted, to assure privacy.

I hereby certify that this is the correct, complete and true copy of the LPVA Policy Documents as amended January 14, 2006.



Marc Montoni, Secretary  
Libertarian Party of Virginia  
PO Box 28263, Richmond VA 23228-0263  
<Secretary@LPVA.com> 804-288-2766

# LPVA Strategic Planning Conference

March 2006 - Richmond, VA

Steve Dasbach, Facilitator

Please note: The Conference was neither endorsed by the SCC nor was the below resulting report adopted or approved by the State Central Committee. It is included herein for informational purposes only.

**Agenda**

1. Defining Success (long-term)
2. Measurable Goals 1-3 years
3. Measuring Progress
4. What will we do to achieve goals

**Defining Success**

1. LP dominated legislature cutting taxes & regulation
2. LP is a major party in Virginia
3. Libertarian Congressman and/or Governor } mentioned by
4. Libertarian elected to statewide office } several people
5. Headline: "Libertarians push through repeal of \_\_\_\_\_".
6. Legislature approves \$20M budget
7. LP candidates in 50% of districts
8. LP candidates in debates (state and/or national)
9. LPVA acts like a political party
10. Libertarian office holders win reelection
- 14.

**What would the LP look like if achieving success as defined above?**

1. Functions well-defined
2. Political infrastructure
3. Precinct-level organization (mentioned by several people)
4. Lots of local activity
5. State HQ, databases, phone banks, etc.
6. Donors: estimates ranged from 2.5k-5k-10k-30k
7. Increase donor tracking – infrastructure to support
8. Annual Budget: estimates ranged from \$0.1M to \$1M
9. Maintain media relations - Proactive contacts
10. Well publicized and known candidates – ability to publicize
11. Leadership: well-known, respected, well financed
12. Candidate recruiting, training, and support system
13. Program of recruiting elected officials

**Measurable Goals for the next 1-3 years: What can we do **now** to build the Libertarian Party that will achieve the success outlined above?**

Measurable Goals	Rankings
1500+ donors/members by January 1, 2008	1111222
ID 10000+ libertarian-leaning voters → database	1
4 OPH booths/congressional district/year	
\$40,000+ annual revenue	3
Databases (members, media, etc.) easily accessible to state & local activities	122222
Train 10+ campaign workers (managers, etc.)	1233333
10+ House Delegate/State Senate (2007)	3
5+ US House (2008)	
1 Statewide in 2008	
Recruit a celebrity candidate	11
3+ competitive races for Delegate and/or State Senate in 2007	333
Win Delegate or State Senate race in 2007	1
Media Goal? (unspecified)	2
Poll Workers	
200 activists (average 365 hr/year)	

**Measuring progress toward top three goals**

1. Set interim targets for donors/members – report monthly or quarterly (also report revenue & voter ID numbers)
2. Define database objectives & develop implementation plan in 2006; implement in 2007
3. Define training objectives & develop implementation plan in 2006; implement in 2007

Facilitator (Dasbach) gave a short presentation on a 60 minute strategic planning process -- small groups took a first pass at developing plans to achieve each of the top three goals, as well as the voter database sub-goal.

# Freedom And Prosperity Agenda

January 20, 2007 - Richmond, VA

Please note: This Agenda was originally proposed by the Tertium Quids (see <http://www.tertiumquids.org/agenda.html>) and was formally endorsed at the January 20, 2007 SCC Meeting.

## THE PLANKS:

### 1. Pass a Taxpayer's Bill of Rights

A Constitutional Amendment creating a Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) would limit increases in state spending to the rate of population growth plus inflation. It would also require any annual surpluses to be refunded to the taxpayers unless a public referendum allowed the government to use the excess revenue for a specific purpose. A public referendum would also be required before the legislature could raise the spending limit.

For more information on passing a Taxpayer's Bill of Rights in Virginia:

- a. Virginia Institute for Public Policy TABOR Study
- b. Spending Reform, Not Tax Reform

### 2. Rein in skyrocketing real estate taxes by basing them on the acquisition value of property

In some parts of the state, real estate tax assessments are increasing by 20% or more each year. This makes it difficult for homeowners, especially older citizens on retirement incomes, to pay their taxes. Some families are being forced out of homes they have owned for 30 years and paid off long ago, because they can't afford the rising tax bill. In many cases, the taxes are more than the original mortgage payments!

A Constitutional Amendment would base real estate taxes on the acquisition value of the property, rather than the current market value, and would limit the annual assessment increase to 2%.

### 3. Eliminate the car tax

This would make good on the promise the state government made to the taxpayers back in 1997 to totally eliminate the car tax on the first \$20,000 in value on personal use vehicles. The tax has currently been reduced by 70%, not the 100% promised eight years ago.

### 4. Eliminate Virginia's death tax

Death (or estate) taxes are very large taxes that the state and federal governments collect from you after you die. Sure, you've already paid income taxes, property taxes, sales taxes, and many other taxes on your money and property during your lifetime, but this is one last grab from government when you can't fight back. The taxes are due just a few months after death, so often the family business or family farm has to be sold to pay them. Not only are family businesses and farms lost, so are all the jobs they created.

For more information on eliminating Virginia's death tax:

Oops, Weren't We Going to Lower the Death Tax?

### 5. Strictly limit the public uses for which private property may be confiscated from private citizens

In Virginia, state and local governments have the authority (called eminent domain) to force you to sell your private property to the government for "public uses" such as building new roads or schools, or for public utilities. The definition of "public use" has been stretched to extremes, and increasingly governments are taking people's homes and businesses and handing over the property to private developers to build more expensive homes and businesses just because they will generate higher tax revenues.

Virginia's laws must be reformed to protect private property, beginning with redefining "public use" to prohibit governments from taking property that they intend to turn over to private entities for private purposes.

For more information on limiting the public uses for which private property may be confiscated from private citizens:

- a: Statement of Core Principles for Eminent Domain Legislation
- b: Kelo Backlash Falling Short (Coming soon...)
- c: Virginia's Response to Kelo: Constitutional Amendment or Legislation?
- d: Property Rights, Condemnation, and Special Interests
- e: The Role of Private Property in a Free Society
- f: The Role of Private Property in Protecting Liberty

### 6. Allow parental choice in education

Since 1980, inflation-adjusted spending for K-12 education in Virginia has increased ten times faster than enrollment. Despite the fact that the U.S. leads the world in per pupil spending, the National Center for Education Statistics reports that 65% of Virginia's public school students score below their grade levels.

We know: 1) the government has a near-monopoly on K-12 education; 2) monopolies always produce an inferior product at a very high cost; and 3) the government assigning a child to a particular school because of its location makes no more sense than a person being assigned to a particular college or hospital because of its location.

If parents' tax dollars are paying for the education of their child, then it should be the parents' choice as to which school best meets the needs of their child. Tax credits for all families, rich or poor, would help them afford the public or private schools of their choice.

For more information on allowing parental choice in education:

- a: School Choice and Taxpayer Relief
- b: The Universal Tuition Tax Credit: Achieving Excellence in Education without a Tax Increase

### 7. Create freedom and fiscal accountability for Virginia's public colleges and universities

The current system of state government subsidies and controlling regulatory oversight for public colleges and universities is flawed and must be changed. Schools, students, and the taxpayers of Virginia would be better served if the schools were under state contracts where they would receive block grants based on the number of in-state students they enroll. Each school would then be able to manage its own resources, free of bureaucratic micromanagement from Richmond.

In exchange, schools would agree to: 1) enroll a specified number of in-state students, 2) cap in-state tuition at an amount substantially below market levels, and 3) admit in-state students without regard to financial need, while providing financial aid to increase access to higher education for all Virginians.

For more information on creating freedom and fiscal accountability for Virginia's public colleges and universities:

Imposing Market Discipline On Public Colleges and Universities

### 8. Protect Transportation Trust Fund money from being used for any other purpose

None of Virginia's income tax revenues and only 10% of state sales tax revenues are spent on transportation. To make matters worse, \$332 million was raided from Virginia's Transportation Trust Fund in 2002 and used for purposes other than transportation.

When citizens are told they are being taxed for a particular purpose, it is a matter of public trust that the revenues should only be used for that purpose. The Virginia Constitution should be amended to prevent the Transportation Trust Fund from ever being plundered again.

As Thomas Jefferson said, "In questions of power, let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution."

### 9. Eliminate the War of 1812 tax (BPOL tax)

The Business Professional and Occupational Licensing (BPOL) Tax was initially passed to raise revenue to fight the War of 1812. Also known as the gross receipts tax, it is a tax on gross sales that businesses must pay to local governments. Even though many startup businesses don't even make a profit for the first several years, they are still subject to the tax on their gross revenue (revenue before business expenses are taken out). In addition, local governments have implemented this tax differently, which places yet another administrative burden on businesses with multiple locations — they must calculate each tax separately that they owe to each locality.

### 10. Require expiration dates for all new taxes and all tax increases

As is demonstrated with the War of 1812 tax that is still with us 194 years later, our state government is reluctant to repeal unnecessary taxes. Often the government claims an "emergency need" for a new or increased tax, yet when the emergency is over, the tax doesn't go away.

Every new tax and tax increase should come with a sunset provision (an "expiration date"). If the government feels it necessary to keep a tax after the expiration date, legislators will have to publicly debate and secure the votes to pass the tax again.

### 11. Eliminate the prepayment of the sales and use tax

To balance the budget for fiscal year 2002 (which ended in June), the state government required businesses to make two payments of their sales and use taxes (the monthly payment due in June, plus an advanced payment for July). It was supposed to be a one-time event, but the following year, the legislature made this prepayment an annual event.

This is like your mortgage company telling you it wants two payments this month because it is having trouble balancing its books. Your mortgage company is not allowed to pull this trick, and the state government should not be allowed to do it either.

# The U.S. Bill of Rights

## Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

## Amendment II

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

## Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

## Amendment IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

## Amendment V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

## Amendment VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

## Amendment VII

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

## Amendment VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

## Amendment IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

## Amendment X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

---

Note: The above text is a transcription of the first ten amendments to the Constitution in their original form. These amendments were ratified December 15, 1791, and form what is known as the "Bill of Rights." The capitalization and punctuation in this version is from the enrolled original of the Joint Resolution of Congress proposing the Bill of Rights, which is on permanent display in the Rotunda of the National Archives Building, Washington, D.C.

# The Virginia Bill of Rights

A DECLARATION OF RIGHTS made by the good people of Virginia in the exercise of their sovereign powers, which rights do pertain to them and their posterity, as the basis and foundation of government.

## **Section 1. Equality and rights of men.**

That all men are by nature equally free and independent and have certain inherent rights, of which, when they enter into a state of society, they cannot, by any compact, deprive or divest their posterity; namely, the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the means of acquiring and possessing property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety.

## **Section 2. People the source of power.**

That all power is vested in, and consequently derived from, the people, that magistrates are their trustees and servants, and at all times amenable to them.

## **Section 3. Government instituted for common benefit.**

That government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation, or community; of all the various modes and forms of government, that is best which is capable of producing the greatest degree of happiness and safety, and is most effectually secured against the danger of maladministration; and, whenever any government shall be found inadequate or contrary to these purposes, a majority of the community hath an indubitable, inalienable, and indefeasible right to reform, alter, or abolish it, in such manner as shall be judged most conducive to the public weal.

## **Section 4. No exclusive emoluments or privileges; offices not to be hereditary.**

That no man, or set of men, is entitled to exclusive or separate emoluments or privileges from the community, but in consideration of public services; which not being descendible, neither ought the offices of magistrate, legislator, or judge to be hereditary.

## **Section 5. Separation of legislative, executive, and judicial departments; periodical elections.**

That the legislative, executive, and judicial departments of the Commonwealth should be separate and distinct; and that the members thereof may be restrained from oppression, by feeling and participating the burthens of the people, they should, at fixed periods, be reduced to a private station, return into that body from which they were originally taken, and the vacancies be supplied by regular elections, in which all or any part of the former members shall be again eligible, or ineligible, as the laws may direct.

## **Section 6. Free elections; consent of governed.**

That all elections ought to be free; and that all men, having sufficient evidence of permanent common

interest with, and attachment to, the community, have the right of suffrage, and cannot be taxed, or deprived of, or damaged in, their property for public uses, without their own consent, or that of their representatives duly elected, or bound by any law to which they have not, in like manner, assented for the public good.

## **Section 7. Laws should not be suspended.**

That all power of suspending laws, or the execution of laws, by any authority, without consent of the representatives of the people, is injurious to their rights, and ought not to be exercised.

## **Section 8. Criminal prosecutions.**

That in criminal prosecutions a man hath a right to demand the cause and nature of his accusation, to be confronted with the accusers and witnesses, and to call for evidence in his favor, and he shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of his vicinage, without whose unanimous consent he cannot be found guilty. He shall not be deprived of life or liberty, except by the law of the land or the judgment of his peers, nor be compelled in any criminal proceeding to give evidence against himself, nor be put twice in jeopardy for the same offense.

Laws may be enacted providing for the trial of offenses not felonious by a court not of record without a jury, preserving the right of the accused to an appeal to and a trial by jury in some court of record having original criminal jurisdiction. Laws may also provide for juries consisting of less than twelve, but not less than five, for the trial of offenses not felonious, and may classify such cases, and prescribe the number of jurors for each class.

In criminal cases, the accused may plead guilty. If the accused plead not guilty, he may, with his consent and the concurrence of the Commonwealth's Attorney and of the court entered of record, be tried by a smaller number of jurors, or waive a jury. In case of such waiver or plea of guilty, the court shall try the case.

The provisions of this section shall be self-executing.

## **Section 8-A. Rights of victims of crime.**

That in criminal prosecutions, the victim shall be accorded fairness, dignity and respect by the officers, employees and agents of the Commonwealth and its political subdivisions and officers of the courts and, as the General Assembly may define and provide by law, may be accorded rights to reasonable and appropriate notice, information, restitution, protection, and access to a meaningful role in the criminal justice process. These rights may include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. The right to protection from further harm or reprisal through the imposition of appropriate bail and conditions of release;
2. The right to be treated with respect, dignity and fairness at all stages of the criminal justice system;

3. The right to address the circuit court at the time sentence is imposed;
4. The right to receive timely notification of judicial proceedings;
5. The right to restitution;
6. The right to be advised of release from custody or escape of the offender, whether before or after disposition; and
7. The right to confer with the prosecution.

This section does not confer upon any person a right to appeal or modify any decision in a criminal proceeding, does not abridge any other right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States or this Constitution, and does not create any cause of action for compensation or damages against the Commonwealth or any of its political subdivisions, any officer, employee or agent of the Commonwealth or any of its political subdivisions, or any officer of the court.

The amendment ratified November 5, 1996 and effective January 1, 1997—Added a new section (8-A).

Section 9. Prohibition of excessive bail and fines, cruel and unusual punishment, suspension of habeas corpus, bills of attainder, and ex post facto laws.

That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted; that the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended unless when, in cases of invasion or rebellion, the public safety may require; and that the General Assembly shall not pass any bill of attainder, or any ex post facto law.

## **Section 10. General warrants of search or seizure prohibited.**

That general warrants, whereby an officer or messenger may be commanded to search suspected places without evidence of a fact committed, or to seize any person or persons not named, or whose offense is not particularly described and supported by evidence, are grievous and oppressive, and ought not to be granted.

## **Section 11. Due process of law; obligation of contracts; taking of private property; prohibited discrimination; jury trial in civil cases.**

That no person shall be deprived of his life, liberty, or property without due process of law; that the General Assembly shall not pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts, nor any law whereby private property shall be taken or damaged for public uses, without just compensation, the term "public uses" to be defined by the General Assembly; and that the right to be free from any governmental discrimination upon the basis of religious conviction, race, color, sex, or national origin shall not be abridged, except that the mere separation of the sexes shall not be considered discrimination.

That in controversies respecting property, and in suits between man and man, trial by jury is preferable to any

other, and ought to be held sacred. The General Assembly may limit the number of jurors for civil cases in courts of record to not less than five.

**Section 12. Freedom of speech and of the press; right peaceably to assemble, and to petition.**

That the freedoms of speech and of the press are among the great bulwarks of liberty, and can never be restrained except by despotic governments; that any citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that right; that the General Assembly shall not pass any law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press, nor the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for the redress of grievances.

**Section 13. Militia; standing armies; military subordinate to civil power.**

That a well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the proper, natural, and safe defense of a free state, therefore, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed; that standing armies, in time of peace, should be avoided as dangerous to liberty; and that in all cases the military should be under strict subordination to, and governed by, the civil power.

**Section 14. Government should be uniform.**

That the people have a right to uniform government; and, therefore, that no government separate from, or independent of, the government of Virginia, ought to be erected or established within the limits thereof.

**Section 15. Qualities necessary to preservation of free government.**

That no free government, nor the blessings of liberty, can be preserved to any people, but by a firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, frugality, and virtue; by frequent recurrence to fundamental principles; and by the recognition by all citizens that they have duties as well as rights, and that such rights cannot be enjoyed save in a society where law is respected and due process is observed.

That free government rests, as does all progress, upon the broadest possible diffusion of knowledge, and that the Commonwealth should avail itself of those talents which nature has sown so liberally among its people by assuring the opportunity for their fullest development by an effective system of education throughout the Commonwealth.

**Section 16. Free exercise of religion; no establishment of religion.**

That religion or the duty which we owe to our Creator, and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force or violence; and,

therefore, all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience; and that it is the mutual duty of all to practice Christian forbearance, love, and charity towards each other. No man shall be compelled to frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever, nor shall be enforced, restrained, molested, or burthened in his body or goods, nor shall otherwise suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief; but all men shall be free to profess and by argument to maintain their opinions in matters of religion, and the same shall in nowise diminish, enlarge, or affect their civil capacities. And the General Assembly shall not prescribe any religious test whatever, or confer any peculiar privileges or advantages on any sect or denomination, or pass any law requiring or authorizing any religious society, or the people of any district within this Commonwealth, to levy on themselves or others, any tax for the erection or repair of any house of public worship, or for the support of any church or ministry; but it shall be left free to every person to select his religious instructor, and to make for his support such private contract as he shall please.

**Section 17. Construction of the Bill of Rights.**

The rights enumerated in this Bill of Rights shall not be construed to limit other rights of the people not therein expressed.